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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/421,416  
Applicants : Hinrich SCHUETZE et al.  
Filed : October 19, 1999  
TC/A.U. : 2172  
Examiner : Jean B. FLEURANTIN  
Docket No. : D/99198  
Customer No. : 31011

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 16, 2003, reconsideration in light of the following remarks is requested.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.